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INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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FROM: MEXICO CITY

TO:

Secretary of State

AF NO:

2173, MARCH 11

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FOREIGN OFFICE LAST NIGHT ISSUED STATEMENT ON MEXICAN POSITION FORTHCOMING SECOND CONFERENCE ON LAW OF SEA. REITERATES CONVICTION THAT MEXICAN PROPOSAL AT FIRST CONFERENCE, THAT IS. RIGHT OF LITTORAL STATE TO FIX OWN TERRITORIAL LIMIT UP TO TWELVE MILES, IS REASONABLE AND IS ONLY FORMULA THAT REFLECTS PREVAILING REALITY OF LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF COASTAL STATES AND THEREFORE ONLY ONE THAT OFFERS PROBABILITIES THAT A COMMON AGREEMENT MAY BE REACHED. MEXICAN DELEGATION INSTRUCTED DEFEND PROPOSAL ESSENTIALLY SIMILAR TO THAT SET FORTH AT FIRST CONFERENCE. STATEMENT ADDS, HOWEVER, THAT "THE DELEGATION WILL ACT IN A CONCILIATORY AND CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT, AND IS DISPOSED TO GIVE PROOF OF THE GREATEST FLEXIBILITY IN ALL THAT DOES NOT AFFECT THE SOVEREIGNTY AND THAT WHICH THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO CONSIDERS INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF THE MEXICAN NATION. IT WILL GO DISPOSED TO COOPERATE LOYALLY WITH ALL THE OTHER PARTICIPATING STATES FOR THE CONCLUSION OF AN AGREEMENT THAT MAY RECEIVE GENERAL ACCEPTANCE."

HEAD OF DELEGATION, ALFONSO GARCIA ROBLES AND DELEGATE JORGE CASTENEDA DEPARTED LAST NIGHT FOR GENEVA. ADVISERS FRANCISCO ALVAREZ FALLER, JOSE GALLASTEGUI AND MISS EMILIA TELLEZ BENOIT AND SECRETARY GENERAL ROBERTO ROSENZWEIG DIAZ DEPART TODAY.

FULL TEXT FOREIGN OFFICE STATEMENT BEING POUCHED.

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